

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A communication system comprising:

a portable device provided with a communication function;

a communication controller which automatically performs mutual communication with the portable device and controls a predetermined driver in accordance with whether mutual communication with the portable device is established;

a selection device which selects one of a disablement mode, which disables automatic communication of the portable device with respect to the communication controller, and a communication mode, which enables automatic communication of the portable device;

a determination unit which recognizes which one of the disablement mode and the communication mode the portable device is in to determine whether to enable or disable automatic communication with respect to the portable device in accordance with the recognition; and

a recognition information providing device which provides the determination unit with recognition information used to recognize which one of the disablement mode and the communication mode the portable device is in, in accordance with the selection by the selection device; and

an instruction device which instructs the portable device to issue a signal enabling the communication controller to operate the predetermined driver when the portable device is in the disablement mode,

wherein the portable device includes the selection device and the recognition information

providing device,

wherein the portable device includes a receiving circuit which receives a signal from the communication controller, the portable device inactivating the receiving circuit when the portable device is in the disablement mode, and

wherein the recognition information includes one of a communication model signal, which indicates the communication mode, and a disablement mode signal, which indicates the disablement mode.

Claims 2 and 3 (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The communication system according to claim 1, further comprising at least one other portable device, and the determination unit disabling automatic communication with respect to each portable device when all of the portable devices are in the disablement mode.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously presented) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the portable device includes a transmitting circuit which transmits a signal to the communication controller, the portable device inactivating the transmitting circuit when the portable device is in the disablement mode.

7. (Previously presented) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the portable device includes a notification device which generates a notice that the portable device is in the disablement mode and which generates a notice that the portable device has shifted from the disablement mode to the communication mode.

8. (Previously presented) The communication system according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined driver is a door lock driver which locks and unlocks a door.

9. (Original) The communication system according to claim 8, wherein the door lock driver locks and unlocks the door of a vehicle.

10. (Original) The communication system according to claim 8, wherein the door lock driver locks and unlocks the door of a house.

11. (Currently amended) A method for reducing power consumption in a communication system, the communication system including a portable device and a communication controller that performs automatic communication with the portable device, wherein the portable device includes a receiving circuit which receives a signal from the communication controller, the method comprising:

selecting with the portable device one of a disablement mode which disables automatic

communication of the portable device relative to the communication controller and a communication mode which enables automatic communication of the portable device;

transmitting recognition information from the portable device to the communication controller in accordance with the selection by the portable device, wherein the recognition information is used to recognize which one of the disablement mode and the communication mode the portable device is in, and wherein the recognition information includes one of a communication mode signal, which indicates the communication mode, and a disablement mode signal, which indicates the disablement mode;

determining with the communication controller which one of the disablement mode and the communication mode the portable device is in from the recognition information;

disabling automatic communication of the communication controller relative to the portable device when it is determined that the portable device is in the disablement mode; and

inactivating the receiving circuit when the portable device is in the disablement mode;

and

instructing the portable device to issue a signal enabling the communication controller to operate the predetermined driver when the portable device is in the disablement mode.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the portable device includes a transmitting circuit which transmits a signal to the communication controller, the method further comprising:

inactivating the transmitting circuit when the portable device is in the disablement mode.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 11, further comprising:
generating a notice that the portable device is in the disablement mode; and
generating a notice that the portable device has shifted from the disablement mode to the communication mode.